Abstract

The invention provides a process for producing a chroman compound represented by formula (1) (wherein each of substituents R_1 to R_6 and X represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a methoxy group, an ethoxy group, a carboxyl group, a C1 to C12 alkyl group which may have a substituent, a C6 to C12 aryl group which may have a substituent, a C7 to C12 aralkyl group which may have a substituent, or an ester residue; R_1 to R_4 may be linked to one another; and at least one of the substituents X and R_6 is an ester residue), characterized in that the process includes allowing a phenol, an olefin, and a formaldehyde to react in the absence of catalyst and in the presence of water in an amount by mole 1 to 10 times that of the phenol.

According to the present invention, a high-purity chroman compound can be produced in the absence of catalyst and under mild conditions. In addition, the invention provides an industrial means for producing the compound, without using a large amount of an acid or a base serving as a reaction promoter or a catalyst, which would otherwise cause side reactions, apparatus corrosion, etc.

[F1]